

20 April 2016

AN OPEN LETTER TO TEACHERS: NAPLAN 2016

Dear teachers,

As you know, the annual National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) tests will be held from 10 to 12 May 2016.

NAPLAN is an important tool for parents, educators and the public to see how Australia's children are meeting essential literacy and numeracy standards. It's a point-in-time snapshot assessment of students' achievements in these important areas.

Now that the Australian Curriculum is being implemented in each state and territory, we've aligned NAPLAN to the Australian Curriculum: English and the Australian Curriculum: Mathematics. The best preparation for NAPLAN is for students to continue learning every day in the classroom. If you think your students would benefit from familiarisation with NAPLAN's style and presentation of items, feel free to [view example tests on the NAP website](#).

NAPLAN doesn't test everything students learn in the classroom; its focus is on the critically important areas of literacy and numeracy. It doesn't replace the important tests that are regularly held in classrooms, nor does it attempt to show you what you already know about your students' learning. It simply complements existing tests and adds a valuable national dimension to your assessment of a child's learning.

We've always maintained that teachers know their students' learning best, and if parents have any concerns, they should speak to their child's teacher for guidance and advice.

Thank you for your continued support of NAPLAN. For more information about NAPLAN, including fact sheets, FAQs and adjustments for students with disabilities, please [visit the NAP website](#).

Best wishes

Robert Randall

ACARA CEO